

Docket No. 740819-715

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hideaki ITO *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/018,369

Filed: December 19, 2001

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING  
AN OPTICAL FIBER PREFORM

)

) Group Art Unit: 1731

) Examiner: John M. HOFFMAN

) Confirmation No.: 4540

) Date: May 27, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 27, 2004, please amend the above identified application as follows.

NVA296890.1